

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 247

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the contributions of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to the civil society of the United States and the world and to the cause of nonviolent social and political change to advance social justice and equality for all races and calling on the people of the United States to study, reflect on, and celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the thirtieth anniversary of his death.

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Whereas the life work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., serves as an inspiration to all people who believe in justice, equality, and human rights;

Whereas Dr. King advanced his goals and principles with determination, faith, dignity, and courage in the face of life-threatening opposition;

Whereas Dr. King raised the consciousness of the Nation to fundamental injustices and inequalities in American society and moved the Nation significantly forward on the long and unfinished road to racial harmony and reconciliation;

Whereas the work of Dr. King created a basis of understanding and respect for individuals, communities, and the Nation as a whole, to act cooperatively and courageously to establish tolerance, justice, and equality among all people;

Whereas Dr. King's life and political philosophy advocated the need for men and women to strive to overcome oppression without resorting to violence;

Whereas Dr. King was the recipient of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for his unrelenting efforts to bring about social and racial justice;

Whereas Dr. King believed in, practiced, and urged others to achieve political change and social equality through non-violent means and dedicated his life to achieving the goal of a fully integrated society;

Whereas there is still much work to be done in achieving full reconciliation among America's racial, social, and ethnic communities and in creating a colorblind society;

Whereas Dr. King's life was tragically ended on April 4, 1968, before completing his work and fulfilling his dream of a Nation where people are not judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character; and

Whereas Dr. King's political philosophy and life's work shine as a guiding light for all people who would live peacefully together in freedom, both nationally and around the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) recognizes the importance of the life and
4 work of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
5 to the civil society and freedoms of the United
6 States of America;

7 (2) recognizes that Dr. King's life was trag-
8 ically taken before the full achievement of his goals;
9 and

10 (3) calls on the people of the United States to
11 study, reflect on, and celebrate Dr. King's life and
12 ideals in order to fulfill his dream of civil and
13 human rights for all people.

Passed the House of Representatives April 1, 1998.

Attest:

Clerk.